REMARKS

Claims 11 and 12 are allowed. Claims 3, 14 and 18 are allowable but are objected as being dependent on a rejected base claim.

Claims 1, 13, 14, 16, 23 and 24 are amended to more clearly define the invention.

Specifically, claim 14 has been placed in independent form incorporating all of the limitations of its base claim (claim 13) and is consequently deemed to be allowable.

Claims 1, 13, 16, 23 and 24 are amended to more clearly recite the processing of "channel map information" containing "replicated information" that "associates a broadcast channel with packet identifiers used to identify individual packetized datastreams that constitute a program" and that replicates information conveyed in "MPEG compatible program map information". Support for this feature is found in the existing claims and in the Application on page 12 line 24 and in other places.

I. Rejection under 35 U.S.C. 102(b)

Claims 1, 2, 4-10, 13, 15-17 and 19-24 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent 5,600,378-Wasilewski.

Amended claim 1 recites apparatus for decoding a datastream of MPEG compatible packetized program information containing program map information including "means for identifying channel map information conveyed within said packetized program information...means for assembling said identified information to form a channel map for identifying said individual packetized datastreams constituting said program, wherein...said channel map information replicates information conveyed in said MPEG compatible program map information and said replicated information associates a broadcast channel with packet identifiers used to identify individual packetized datastreams that constitute a program transmitted on said broadcast channel". These features are not shown or suggested in Wasilewski.

The system of amended claim 1 includes "means for identifying channel map information" that "replicates" information conveyed in "MPEG compatible program map information" and the "replicated information associates a broadcast channel with packet identifiers used to identify individual packetized datastreams that

constitute a program transmitted on said broadcast channel". Wasilewski fails to show (or suggest) the processing of "replicated information" that "**associates** a broadcast **channel with packet identifiers** used to identify individual **packetized datastreams** that **constitute a program**" and that is replicated in **both** a "**channel map**" and MPEG compatible "**program map**" information.

Wasilewski shows the processing of MPEG program map information including "packet identifiers used to identify individual packetized datastreams that constitute a program" (item 40 in Figures 1-4). However, Wasilewski does **not** show (or suggest) the processing of a "channel map" including "replicated information" including "**packet identifiers** used to identify individual **packetized datastreams** that **constitute a program**" and that is **replicated** in **both** a "channel map" and MPEG compatible "program map information". The network information, program association and conditional access tables (tables 36, 38 and 42 respectively of Wasilewski Figure 1) are merely MPEG specified program specific information tables per section 2.4.4 of the MPEG systems standard ISO 13818-1 and do not contain "packet identifiers used to identify individual packetized datastreams that constitute a program" (contrary to the rejection statement on page 2 lines 13-15).

Further, the logical channel table (LCT) and composite channel table (CCT) shown as items 32 and 34 respectively in Wasilewski Figures 1-4, also do not contain "replicated...packet identifiers used to identify individual packetized datastreams that constitute a program". This is evident from the item 32 and 34 table contents identified in Figures 3 and 4 and from the accompanying specification description. Specifically, the LCT of Figures 3 and 4 includes LCN (logical channel number), CCI (composite channel indicator), TSID (transport stream ID), PN (program number), and HC (home channel) (Wasilewski column 5 lines 37-56 and other places). The CCT of Figures 3 and 4 includes CCN (composite channel number), and LCN (logical channel number) (Wasilewski column 5 lines 57-59). Consequently neither table provides "**replicated...packet identifiers**" (e.g. PIDs as in the PMT of item 40 of Figures 2-3) "used to **identify** individual packetized **datastreams** that **constitute a program**". This is corroborated by Wasilewski in column 5 lines 13-17 stating that the "PMT 40...(is) **needed** to demultiplex the service components of the selected program". In contrast, the channel map of the claim 1 system replicates the "packet identifiers used to identify individual packetized datastreams that constitute a program" in a "channel map" and consequently in the claim 1 system the PMT is **NOT** needed to demultiplex program components since the "channel map" contains the required information.

By replicating program map information in a "channel map ", the time required by a decoder to identify and acquire a program being transmitted is advantageously reduced. This is because the channel map, together with the replicated information, enables a decoder to directly configure and tune to receive a selected channel desired by a User without acquiring and using the Program Map Table (PMT) information in the MPEG compatible stream input to the decoder. In addition, system flexibility and adaptability are improved since the data partitioning, data formatting and data repetition frequency characteristics of replicated program map information may be determined independently of the requirements of MPEG Program Map Table (Application page 12 lines 21-41). Neither the claimed features, nor these specific advantages, are recognized or suggested in Wasilewski.

Further, it would not be obvious to modify the system of Wasilewski to incorporate and process the replicated information because such a modification involves incorporating redundant information and using scarce bandwidth. Wasilewski (and the other cited references) fail to recognize the advantages to be gained (e.g. reducing the time required by a decoder to identify and acquire a program etc.) by incorporating the replicated information in the "channel map" or provide any other reason or motivation for adopting the claim 1 features. Consequently, it is submitted that claim 1 is patentable under 35 USC 102(b) and withdrawal of the rejection is respectfully requested.
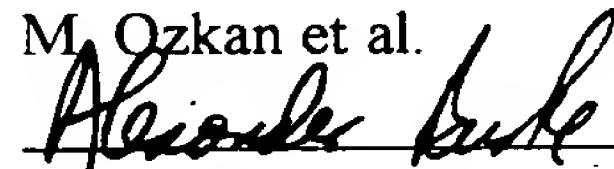
Amended independent claims 13, 16, 23 and 24 are considered to be patentable for the reasons given in connection with amended claim 1. Dependent claims 2, 4-10, 15, 17 and 19-22 are considered to be patentable based on their dependence on their respective amended base claims and because of the additional feature combinations they recite.

Claims 3 and 18 are deemed to be patentable for the reason recognized in the Rejection.

In view of the above amendments and remarks, applicant submits that this application is in condition for allowance, and favorable reconsideration is requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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